The Law College, which is under the administrative control of the High Court, was, from the beginning of the current academic year, converted into a full-time institution in accordance with the requirements of the University. The sanctioned staff now consists of a Principal, two Professors and five Elective Lecturers. In the F. L. and B. L. classes together, the strength fell from 629 to 324 or by nearly fifty per cent., as a direct result of the new arrangement. The institution was self-supporting in 1106 also, when the full effect of the reorganisation had not been felt.

Devaswoms.

26. In July 1925, the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms within the territorial limits of Travancore and coming within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation, dated the 12th April 1922, and the Devaswom Commissioner was made directly responsible to the Ruler. Soon after the assumption of ruling powers by His Highness the Maha Raja, this arrangement was cancelled and the Devaswom Department is now being administered by the Dewan like other departments of the Government with the Devaswom Commissioner under him as the head of the department.

Recruitment to the Public Service.

27. In my predecessor's address to you at the last session, the appointment of a committee to examine the question of recruitment to the Government service in its various aspects and to make proposals regarding the principles and methods of recruitment was foreshadowed. In December 1931, a committee consisting of five officials and five non-official members of the Legislative Council was accordingly constituted with wide terms of reference and under the chairmanship of the Deputy President of the Legislative Council. The lamented demise of Mr. Krishna Aiyangar unfortunately prevented the committee from beginning its work; but arrangements will soon be made to appoint a chairman and to expedite the report of the committee.

Assembly Elections.

28. Though the rules relating to the constitution and conduct of business of the Assembly were revised before the twenty-seventh session, the elections to that session had already taken place, and women, though enfranchised, could not exercise the vote last year. This session is therefore the first in the elections to which women participated. For the forty-three taluk seats, there were 5,400 men and 323 women voters. Women having been given both the right to vote and the right to be returned as members, my predecessor hoped last year that, at future sessions, elected women members would come in. That hope has not been realised. Of the voters on the rolls, only 1,972 men and 11 women in all polled. There was only one woman candidate and she was not returned. As at the last session, the Government have therefore nominated five ladies as members of this session.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly